

mangroves from the Bay of Bengal down the coast of Myanmar. Other members of the genus are wholly rainforest species and this is the most northerly member of the genus. Again, very curious. The most common butterfly was the large red-bodied swallowtail, the Crimson Rose, *Pachliopta hector* Fabricius, which I never saw elsewhere in Bangladesh. They must have been part of a northwards migration of this South Indian butterfly which made landfall here. Some females were laying eggs on one of the usual host plants, *Aristolochia indica*. It is very sporadic in Calcutta and in Bangladesh; it did not reach the Dhaka area during January-March. Not too bad for a trip that did not have butterflies as a specific objective.

While collecting, I was issued with two rather frail forest guards carrying ancient Lee-Enfield rifles of Khyber Pass vintage as protection against the dreaded tiger. At one point they wanted to catch me a tree nymph, so I found myself deprived of my net and saddled with two very heavy rifles. But tigers are rarely seen by visitors, though pug marks are plentiful.

So we had our ABD. We saw deer aplenty. We saw the largest estuarine crocodile I have ever seen. We played scrabble. I even gave a talk with live performing butterflies in the tiny lounge. The last event of note on the way back was passing through a patch of fluorescent water. "There is a bucket at the stern," said our guide, "go pour some water down. It's beautiful." We went to the stern, and I grabbed the full bucket. A crew member looked on with unease. I poured in the water. It was indeed beautiful. But what was that? The crew member's freshly washed, now illuminated underpants floated gently away in the ship's wake – the defining moment of a low-key, but pleasant trip! – TORBEN B. LARSEN, Bangladesh, World Bank, 1818 H. Street N. W., Washington D.C., 20433, USA (E-mail: torbenlarsen@compuserve.com).

### ***Oxyptilus laetus* (Zell.) (Lep.: Pterophoridae) new to the Scottish fauna**

Whilst undertaking an entomological survey for clients during 1998 at the Ministry of Defence (MoD) Kirkcudbright Training Area in south-west Scotland, I ran m.v. lamps on several nights and generated a list of 189 species of Lepidoptera. Several were sufficiently noteworthy to warrant mention in these pages (see *Ent. Rec.* **111**: 39 – 41). On the night of 20 June 1998, I ran a string of five m.v. lamps, each about 100 metres apart, along a track running through a scrubby area of the south-facing shoreline at Abbey Burn Foot (VC 73; O. S. grid reference NX 7444). On this occasion a single plume moth, which I did not immediately recognise, was taken in one of the traps. Consequently, it was collected and set for later examination, but having been put into a box with many others it was subsequently forgotten about until the winter of 2003/2004 when I made a determined effort to clear the backlog of dissections. I was very pleasantly surprised to discover, using the excellent drawings in Gielis (1996. *Microlepidoptera of Europe. 1: Pterophoridae*. Apollo Books) that it seemed to be a female *Oxyptilus* (= *Crombrugghia*) *laetus*. This is a rather scarce immigrant species and most of the British records are from the southern half of the country; thus, my identification seemed somewhat unlikely to be correct.

However, reference to the review of this species and its congener *O. distans* by Colin Hart in *Ent. Rec.* **108**: 113-117 (1996) seemed to confirm the diagnosis. That paper contains clear half-tone photographs of the male and female genitalia of both species and includes an important additional character, the shape of the posterior margin of the seventh abdominal sternite, which is illustrated, but not highlighted, for *O. laetus* by Gielis (*op. cit.*), but not for *O. distans*. Accordingly, the microscope slide bearing the genitalia was sent to Colin Hart who was able to confirm my identification.

Although I have not checked the Scottish Insect Records Index (SIRI) at the National Museums of Scotland (see, Shaw, 1987. *Ent. Rec.* **99**: 37-38), I am informed by Colin Hart that this is certainly the first report of *Oxyptilus laetus* in Scotland. It is only the fifteenth example to be reported in Britain.

In the same trap on the same night I also took several examples of the rare immigrant choreutid *Tebenna micalis* (Mann), another first for Scotland and already reported. These were accompanied by more frequent species such as the Vestal *Rhodometra sacraria* (L.) and the pyralids *Nomophila noctuella* (D.& S.) and *Udea ferrugalis* (Hb.), clearly suggesting that there was a degree of immigrant activity taking place. A Clouded Yellow butterfly *Colias croceus* (Geoff.) was also noted in preceding afternoon. Finally, Colin Hart also informs me that another example of *O. laetus* was taken in Britain just four days later, on 24 June 1998, this time at Walberton, Bramblings, West Sussex, England (VC 13: grid reference SU 96379 06325) by J. T. Radford. There seems little doubt that my Scottish example was a primary immigrant.— COLIN W. PLANT, 14 West Road, Bishops Stortford, Hertfordshire CM23 3QP (E-mail: cpauk1@ntlworld.com).

### **The Aston Rowant record of *Ceutorhynchus syrites* Germar (Col.: Curculionidae) – a mystery unresolved?**

I am grateful to Mr A. A. Allen for his response to my earlier appeal for information regarding this record (*Ent. Rec.* **116**: 147). As he says, the details are few. I knew Mr G. E. Woodroffe quite well, and he was certainly aware of my particular interest in Curculionoidea. Yet he never mentioned this outstanding record to me. Again as Mr Allen says, he was a competent coleopterist. Among his interesting captures at Aston Rowant was *Glocianus moelleri* (Thomson). As I mentioned in my account of the British species in the genus (1999, *Coleopterist* **8**: 49-56), I have one of Mr Woodroffe's specimens of this species and it was collected on 17 May 1966. The coincidence of two very rare weevils being collected on the same day at the same locality is, to my mind, suggestive, particularly as the specimen of *C. syrites* has not (yet) been found. Is it not possible that the two species have been confused? This is despite the dissimilarity of names, though of course *G. moelleri* was until recently included in *Ceutorhynchus* in British literature on Ceutorhynchinae.

I have nothing to add to Mr Allen's comments on the Totnes "record" of *C. syrites*. Readers of this journal will no doubt form their own opinions as to its reliability, given the circumstances of its discovery which he describes.— M. G. MORRIS, Orchard House, 7 Clarence Road, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 2HF.